

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of bonding a first tissue to a second tissue, said method comprising the steps of:

placing said first tissue in proximity of said second tissue;

providing an adhesive in contact with said first and second tissues, said adhesive including collagen, a concentration of said collagen in said adhesive being at least equal to 300 mg/ml, but less than 800 mg/ml, said collagen being gelatinized by application of thermal energy, and said collagen being derivatized with a COO⁻ functional group; and exposing said adhesive to electromagnetic radiation.

2. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said electromagnetic radiation includes infrared light.

3. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said exposing step includes the step of directing light generated by a laser to said adhesive.

4. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
monitoring a temperature of a surface of said adhesive; and
adjusting an intensity of said electromagnetic radiation in response to said monitored temperature.

5. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a material including a cyanoacrylate in contact with at least one of said first and second tissues.

6. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said collagen is also derivatized with an SH⁺ functional group.

7. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adhesive is heated to a temperature within a range of 55°-66°C.

8. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adhesive is a liquid, gel or solid.

9. (New) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said electromagnetic radiation has a wavelength in a range of 1.4 μm – 1.5 μm .